MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*) : Will the member be pleased to state how this particular vacancy was engaging the consideration of Government?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Because the appointment of a successor was under consideration.

MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*) : It was under the consideration of Government for more than six months. Will the member be pleased to state in what way it was engaging the attention of Government?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Nomination was under consideration.

MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*) : Was there any difficulty of seniority question? I want to know in what way that particular vacancy was engaging the attention of Government.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The question of nomination was under consideration. I do not know in what way.

MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*) : My question is whether a particular vacancy was simply engaging the attention of Government for more than six months?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes. It was engaging the attention of Government.

MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*) : Will the member be pleased to state whether any other subsequent vacancy occurred in the High Court before Mr. Bootalingam Aiyar's vacancy was filled up?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes. Subsequent vacancies have occurred before Mr. Bhootalingam Aiyar's vacancy was filled up.

MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*) : May I know whether these vacancies were filled up immediately or whether these vacancies were engaging the attention of Government?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : It does not arise from the question how other vacancies were filled up. This is about Mr. Bhootalingam Aiyar's vacancy. That is answered.

MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*) : Because a particular vacancy was engaging the attention of Government, so, I want to know whether the subsequent vacancies were also engaging their attention?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : That is not the question asked. When that question is asked as a main question that will be answered. But it does not arise as a supplementary question now.

Filling up of vacancies of High Court Judges.

357. MR. G. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to state why the two vacancies of the High Court Judges' places were not filled up for about 6 months, after these vacancies occurred?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There was only one such vacancy. As regards the delay in filling it up, the member is referred to the answer to interpellation No. 356 by Mr. D. C. Joseph.

Delay in filling up vacancies of Judicial Officers.

358. **MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): Are the Government aware that the delay in filling up vacancies of Judicial Officers is adding very considerably to laws' delays?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There are no vacancies of Judicial Officers which remain unfilled.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Are the Government aware that their habitual delay in filling up vacancies is adding very considerably to laws' delays?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government do not admit that there is habitual delay.

Appointment of Judges in the High Court.

359. **MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): With reference to the recent appointment of three Judges in the High Court, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the dates on which each of the vacancies that led to the appointments arose;

(*b*) when, in the case of each, was it definitely known that it would arise;

(*c*) the time taken to make the appointment in each case;

(*d*) the reason for the delay in making the appointments to the two earlier vacancies out of the three; and

(*e*) within how many minutes after the present Dewan took upon himself the execution of duties at the Huzur Office he signed the order appointing the three Judges and within how many minutes thereafter each of them took his seat on the High Court Bench?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

	Nature of vacancy.	*Date of vacancy.*
(*a*)	(i) Vacancy of Mr. Justice P. N. Bhootalingam Aiyar granted leave preparatory to retirement.	3-5-1104
	(ii) Vacancy of Mr. Justice A. Venkatarama Aiyar promoted as Ag. Chief Justice, High Court.	22-10-1104
	(iii) Vacancy of Mr. Justice V.S. Subrahmanya Aiyar appointed Dewan.	10-11-1104

(*b*) (i) 1-5-1104.
(ii) 17-9-1104.
(iii) 10-11-1104.

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